

**[Report 1949] / Medical Officer of Health, Ulverston R.D.C.**

**Contributors**

Ulverston (England). Rural District Council.

**Publication/Creation**

1949

**Persistent URL**

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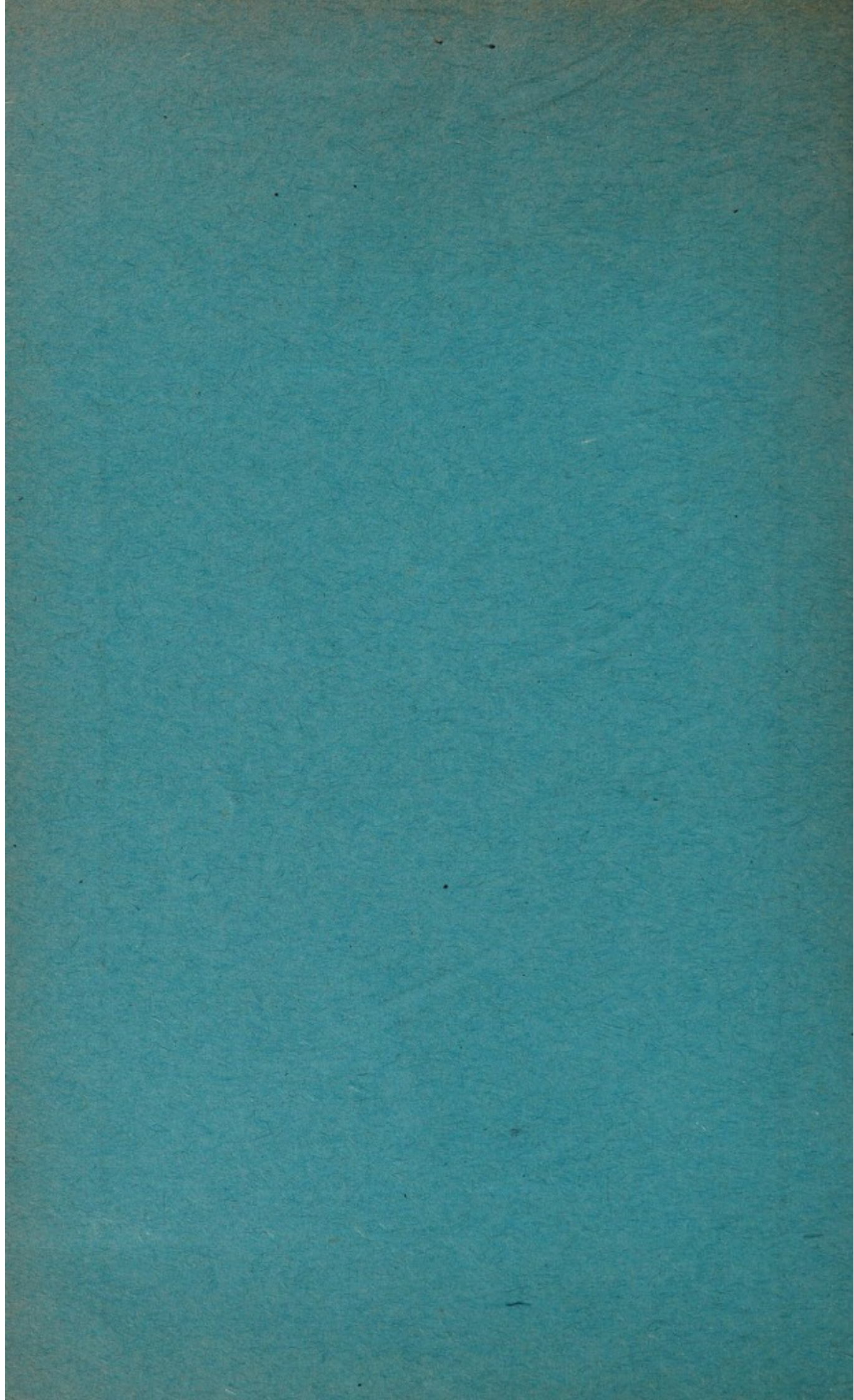
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ULVERSTON  
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

**ANNUAL  
REPORT**  
OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER  
OF HEALTH

For the Year 1949.







# ULVERSTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

## Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the Year 1949.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Rural District Council.*

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1949.

### GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (in acres)	...	...	...	127,485
Population	...	...	...	16,670
Number of inhabited houses (at 1/4/49)...				5,229
Rateable Value (at 1/4/50) ...	...	...		£78,994
Amount produced by a penny rate				£304/8/1

### VITAL STATISTICS.

#### BIRTHS.

Two hundred and thirty four births, 121 male and 113 female, were registered during the year. The birth rate of 14.0 per 1,000 compared with a rate of 16.4 per 1,000 in 1948. Six of the births were illegitimate children.

#### STILLBIRTHS.

Eight children were stillborn during the year, giving a stillbirth rate of 33 per 1,000 total births.

#### DEATHS.

Two hundred and fifty three deaths, 119 male and 134 female, were registered during the year. The death rate at 15.2 per 1,000 compared with a death rate of 12.7 per 1,000 in 1948.

#### INFANTILE MORTALITY.

Five deaths of infants under one year of age occurred. The sexes, ages and causes of death were :—

Male	2 days.	Congenital cyanotic heart disease.
Male	2 days.	Partial atelectasis and cerebral compression.
Male	1 day.	Prematurity, eclamptic toxæmia.
Female	3 days.	Marasmus, maternal toxæmia.
Male	1 day.	Prematurity, severe maternal toxæmia of pregnancy.

DEATHS FROM DIARRHOEA AND ENTERITIS UNDER TWO  
YEARS OF AGE :—Nil.

MATERNAL MORTALITY :—Nil

CAUSES OF DEATH.

The table below shows the causes of death of Rural District residents in 1949.

CAUSES OF DEATH.		Male.	Female.	Total
1	Typhoid and Para-Typhoid fevers	—	—	—
2	Measles ... ..	—	—	—
3	Scarlet Fever ... ..	—	—	—
4	Whooping Cough ... ..	—	—	—
5	Diphtheria ... ..	—	—	—
6	Influenza ... ..	2	1	3
7	Acute infective encephalitis ...	—	—	—
8	Cerebro-spinal fever ... ..	—	—	—
9	Tuberculosis of respiratory system	1	2	3
10	Other tuberculosis diseases ...	—	—	—
11	Syphilitic diseases... ..	—	—	—
12	Acute poliomyelitis and polioencephalitis ... ..	—	1	1
13	Cancer of buccal cavity, oesophagus, uterus ... ..	1	2	3
14	Cancer of stomach and duodenum	6	8	14
15	Cancer of breast ... ..	—	6	6
16	Cancer of all other sites... ..	9	13	22
17	Diabetes ... ..	1	1	2
18	Intracranial vascular lesions ...	15	25	40
19	Heart disease ... ..	33	43	76
20	Other circulatory diseases ...	1	—	1
21	Bronchitis ... ..	8	3	11
22	Pneumonia ... ..	4	1	5
23	Other respiratory diseases ...	1	—	1
24	Ulcer of stomach or duodenum ...	4	—	4
25	Diarrhoea under 2 years of age...	—	—	—
26	Appendicitis ... ..	—	1	1
27	Other digestive diseases ...	1	1	2
28	Acute and chronic nephritis ...	4	2	6
29	Puerperal and post-abortive sepsis	—	—	—
30	Other maternal causes ... ..	—	—	—
31	Premature birth, congenital mal- formation, birth injury, etc. ...	4	1	5
32	Senility ... ..	15	14	29
33	Suicide ... ..	1	—	1
34	Road traffic accidents ... ..	1	—	1
35	Other violent causes ... ..	1	4	5
36	All other causes ... ..	6	5	11
		119	134	253

The chief causes of death of Rural District residents as shown by the above table were :—Heart disease 76, Cancer 45, Intracranial vascular lesions 40, and Senility 29.



## CANCER.

Brief particulars of the 45 deaths from cancer are given below :—

Site.	Male.	Female.	Total.
Stomach ... ..	6	7	13
Breast ... ..	—	6	6
Liver ... ..	1	3	4
Gall Bladder ... ..	—	3	3
Colon ... ..	—	3	3
All other sites ... ..	9	7	16
	16	29	45

The age distribution of deaths in 1949 is shown below :—

-1	1-	5-	10-	15-	20-	30-	40-	50-	60-	65-	70-	75-	80-	85-	90-
5	3	1	2	1	2	4	8	20	20	31	40	50	44	19	3
Total 253															

73.9 per cent of deaths occurred in persons of 65 and over

The table below shows comparisons between birth and death rates in England and Wales, 148 smaller towns and this district.

Year	England and Wales.		148 Smaller Towns, 25—50,000 population.		Ulv. Rural District.	
	Births	Deaths.	Births	Deaths.	Births	Deaths.
1945...	16.1	11.4	19.2	12.3	16.1	11.3
1946...	19.1	11.5	21.3	11.7	16.6	13.6
1947...	20.5	12.0	22.2	11.9	16.9	14.3
1948...	17.9	10.8	19.2	10.7	16.4	12.7
1949...	16.7	11.7	18.0	11.6	14.0	15.2

Once again the birth rate was lower and the death rate higher than in the country generally.

## General Provision of Health Services.

### PERSONNEL.

Medical Officer of Health:—A. Dodd, M.D., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Other Appointments held:— Medical Officer of Health—Ulverston Combined Sanitary District.  
Divisional Medical Officer: Health Division No. 1, Lancashire County Council.

Senior Sanitary Inspector:— H. C. Claydon, Certificate—Royal Sanitary Institute. Certificate—Royal Sanitary Institute—Meat and Other Foods.

Sanitary Inspector:— H. E. Bingham, Certificate—Royal Sanitary Institute. Certificate—Royal Sanitary Institute—Meat and Other Foods.

## LABORATORY FACILITIES.

Bacteriological examinations are carried out at the hospital laboratory of the Barrow and Furness Hospital Management Committee situated at High Carley Sanatorium, assisted, if necessary, by the Public Health Laboratory at Liverpool. Chemical analyses, as required, are sent to the City Laboratories.

## Maternity and Child Welfare, School Medical, Dental and Health Visiting Services, Ulverston Combined Sanitary District.

These services are provided by the Lancashire County Council. Routine child welfare clinics, minor ailment clinics, dental clinics and school medical and dental inspections are undertaken by Assistant County Medical and Dental Officers with health visitors and school nurses. The ophthalmic surgeon, obstetrician and orthopaedic specialist attend the appropriate eye, ante-natal and post-natal and orthopaedic clinics at Ulverston and Dalton-in-Furness.

The times and places where the County Council Clinics are held are shown below :—

CONISTON—Church Rooms, Yewdale Road :

First Friday each month, p.m., Child Welfare Centre.

KIRKBY—Beckside School :

Third Friday each month, p.m., Child Welfare Centre.

GRAYTHWAITE—Hazelseat.

First Wednesday each month, p.m., Child Welfare Centre.

HAWKSHEAD—Town Hall :

Last Wednesday each month, p.m., Child Welfare Centre.

GRANGE—Congregational Sunday School, Kents Bank Road :

Tuesday fortnightly, p.m., Child Welfare Centre.

DALTON—Dowdales Clinic :

Monday a.m. Nil.

p.m. Immunisation, First Monday each month,  
2 p.m.

Tuesday a.m. Minor Ailments Redressing Clinic.

p.m. Nil.

Wednesday a.m. Ophthalmic Clinic.

p.m. Ante-Natal Clinic.

Thursday a.m. Minor Ailments and Inspection Clinic.

p.m. Child Welfare Clinic.

Friday a.m. Nil.

p.m. Nil.



#### ULVERSTON—Brogden Street :

Monday	a.m.	Minor Ailments Redressing Clinic. Dental Clinic.
	p.m.	Ante-Natal Clinic. Dental Clinic.
Tuesday	a.m.	Orthopaedic Clinic. Dental Clinic.
	p.m.	Dental Clinic. Orthopaedic Clinic (every two months).
Wednesday	a.m.	Minor Ailments and Inspection Clinic.
	p.m.	Child Welfare Centre.
Thursday	a.m.	Ophthalmic Clinic. Dental Clinic.
	p.m.	Dental Clinic.
Friday	a.m.	Dental Clinic.
	p.m.	Dental Clinic.
Saturday	a.m.	2nd Saturday each month, 10—11 a.m.: Immunisation.

### Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

#### WATER SUPPLIES.

Details of the water supplies in the Rural District are to be found in the Annual Reports of the Medical Officers of Health for 1943, 1944, 1946, 1947 and 1948.

The following are the main developments which took place during 1949.

#### BOUTH—

In February a report was submitted to the Health Committee showing, amongst other things, the total number of properties in the area of supply, the number of properties whose owners would take the Council's supply if made available and the structural condition of the properties with their present water supplies.

On investigation it was ascertained that there was a probable source of contamination of the proposed supply and also in July the Engineer reported that further gaugings indicated that the flow of water was inadequate to serve the properties. The Council decided, therefore, that Bouth should, if possible, be supplied from the Finsthwaite, Lakeside and Newby Bridge Scheme and in December various documents relating to the Finsthwaite, Lakeside and Newby Bridge Scheme, extension to the village of Bouth, were forwarded to the Ministry of Health.

#### OUTGATE WATER SUPPLY SCHEME—

Work on this scheme, started in June, was progressing well at the end of the year.

#### HAWKSHEAD WATER SUPPLY SCHEME—

The Laying of the new water main from Hawkshead Police Station to Gallowbarrow was completed in July.

#### FOXFIELD WATER SUPPLY SCHEME—

Approval of the Ministry of Health to the Foxfield Water Supply Scheme having been received tenders for the supply of pipes and fittings were accepted in November.



## BROUGHTON WATER SUPPLY SCHEME—

Following further enquiries in September by the Ministry of Health into the conditions of the reservoir and other matters the Engineer reported to the Ministry.

## LAKESIDE AND NEWBY BRIDGE WATER SUPPLY SCHEME

The Council after considering further reports and plans in November recommended "that the scheme of water supply to serve Lakeside and Newby Bridge as now submitted by the Engineer be approved subject to any amendment which may ultimately be made on the question of cost contingent upon a supplementary report to be made by the Engineer in relation to variation of route."

The following table shows the number of dwellinghouses and numbers of the population supplied with water from public mains and from private sources in the parishes of the Rural District at the end of 1949 :—

TOWNSHIPS.	From Public Mains				From Private Wells and Springs, etc.	
	Direct to houses.		By means of stand-pipes.			
	No. of dwelling-houses.	No. of population.	No. of dwelling-houses.	No. of population.	No. of dwelling-houses.	No. of population.
Aldingham .....	269	909	—	—	5	18
Allithwaite Lower ...	426	1142	—	—	2	5
Allithwaite Upper ...	210	715	—	—	10	36
Angerton .....	—	—	—	—	5	23
Blawith .....	—	—	—	—	37	117
Broughton East .....	27	103	—	—	25	109
Broughton West ....	262	820	—	—	Private Main. 39	137
Cartmel Fell .....	18	58	—	—	96	260
Claife .....	142	380	—	—	31	119
Colton .....	16	71	—	—	301	1053
Coniston .....	245	737	32	88	43	165
Dunnerdale, etc. ...	—	—	—	—	61	190
Egton-with-Newland	110	324	—	—	162	556
Haverthwaite .....	191	550	—	—	54	266
Hawkshead .....	173	449	—	—	19	81
Holker Lower .....	396	1305	—	—	46	183
Holker Upper .....	8	38	—	—	40	179
Kirkby Ireleth .....	386	1180	—	—	41	197
Lowick .....	34	115	—	—	44	171
Mansriggs .....	1	5	—	—	10	50
Osmotherley .....	39	66	—	—	46	156
Pennington .....	345	1433	—	—	8	33
Satterthwaite .....	—	—	—	—	Private Main. 106	356
Skelwith .....	—	—	—	—	91	254
Staveley .....	120	319	—	—	5	18
Subberthwaite .....	9	30	—	—	15	47
Torver .....	—	—	—	—	60	196
Urswick .....	355	1070	—	—	5	19



## HOUSING.

The need for new housing accommodation remains most pressing, and it will obviously be several years before this need is totally met. It can be said, however, that in those parishes where new houses have been built and occupied, a good proportion of the most necessitous cases have been dealt with.

The high cost of living is revealing itself plainly in the matter of re-housing, in that quite often no application has been received from families who are in obvious need of better accommodation. It is presumed that the difference between the rental of their present houses, in some cases as low as three shillings per week, and that of a new Council house, is proving a stumbling block.

The Rural Housing Survey was almost completed by the end of the year, and an estimation of the housing needs of the area will be obtained from the results. Apart from the primary object of this survey, we now have a detailed picture of the sanitary circumstances of practically all the dwellings in the area, even to the type of water supply and provision for refuse storage. Some of the information will, of course, be out of date, the survey having been commenced in 1945, and this applies particularly to the over-crowding figures. In connection with this, it should be pointed out that for the purpose of the survey, the Housing Act standard has been observed, i.e. all habitable rooms are included for sleeping accommodation. When dealing with applications for the tenancy of Council houses, however, it has been the practice to assess over-crowding on the number of bedrooms only. For this reason it is not anticipated that the survey will reveal many technical cases of overcrowding owing to the extremely low standard set by the Housing Act. In practice, however, the figures will be much higher.

## MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS.

A great deal of the Council's responsibility in this direction ceased on the 30th September, 1949, when the registration of dairy farms and the issue of designated milk licences passed mainly into the hands of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. In effect this means that the Council is no longer responsible for the supervision of new and existing milk production buildings, and the production of clean milk on farms. Liability to register persons who retail only (not produce) remains with the Council. The sampling of milk for B. Tuberculosis and bacteriological content will still be carried out by the Council, but if there should be need to follow cases up the matter will be referred to the County Medical Officer of Health and the Ministry of Agriculture respectively.

An effort to maintain the examination for B. tuberculosis was made during the year, and the figure of 149 samples taken, revealing 4 positive cases, can be regarded as satisfactory.

## CONVERSION OF EARTH-CLOSETS.

The number of conversions of earth-closets to water-closets during the year was 21, considerably lower than in the previous three years. The reason for the reduction is that in areas where



sewerage and water are available most of the possible conversions have now been carried out. In some villages, notably Urswick, the sewerage now available is not adequate to deal with a wholesale conversion programme, and for this reason pressure has not been brought to bear on property owners. Until sewerage is provided in such villages at Backbarrow, Sparkbridge and Ayside little improvement in these figures can be looked for.

#### RODENT CONTROL AND VERMINOUS PREMISES.

The work of rodent control continued throughout the year, on the basis of 50% grant by the Ministry of Agriculture in respect of the total cost of the work. One condition of this grant renders the Council liable to carry out two treatments of the sewers per year, and this has been done, although little infestation has been revealed. The number of other infestations dealt with is 181, and a high degree of success has been obtained using the Ministry recommended poisons—zinc phosphide and arsenic. In this area rodents are greatly attracted by premises on which pigs and fowls are kept and it is at such premises that most work is found.

The number of cases of other verminous premises was again very small and except in one case no difficulty was experienced in successful treatment.

#### REFUSE COLLECTION AND SALVAGE.

The systematic collection of refuse proceeded smoothly throughout the year, there being only slight dislocation during holiday times. The efficiency of the service as opposed to the pre-1945 contract system has been remarked upon by many people, who now have the satisfaction of knowing the day on which their premises can be expected to receive attention. The difficulty with which the Council is now confronted is not with collection but with disposal as satisfactory tipping sites are not easily found. Some sites which have apparently been regarded as satisfactory in the past are now giving rise to nuisance, notably at Greenodd, where the tip has been in use for many years and is now quite near the property in the village. There would be no point in abandoning the site at the moment as the unused ground would need filling up before it could be regarded as satisfactory for any development purposes, yet on the other hand a nuisance is likely to arise during hot weather owing to the proximity of dwellings. To minimise nuisance, however, a scheme to seal in most of the exposed tipping face and work on a shorter face, will be carried out early in the New Year.

The campaign to collect salvage came to an abrupt end during the latter part of the year, when it was found that the market for mixed waste paper and cardboard had disappeared almost overnight. This state of affairs was not only a local one but affected the whole of the country, and many other authorities have now ceased their salvage campaigns. The direction upon Local Authorities to collect waste paper was withdrawn by the Board of Trade in June owing to the supply greatly exceeding the demand.



## Drainage and Sewerage.

Particulars of existing methods of disposal of sewage in the various townships of the Rural District are given below :

Township.	Village.	Method of Disposal.
Aldingham ...	Leece ...	...Sewage tank and land irrigation.
	Gleaston ...	...Sewage tank.
	Scales ...	...Two sewage tanks with overflows to land.
	Baycliffe ...	...Sewage tank with outfall to sea.
Allithwaite Lower, Allithwaite		...Sewage disposal works with tanks and filters— outfall to sea.
	Cartmel ...	...Sewage disposal works with tanks and filters— outfall to River Eea.
Allithwaite Upper, Lindale ...		...Sewage disposal works with tanks and filters— outfall to River Winster.
	Newton ...	...Sewage disposal works with tanks and filters— outfall to stream.
Broughton East...Field Broughton...		Sewage tank.
Broughton West, Broughton-in-Furness		...Sewage tank with overflow to the tidal waters of the River Duddon.
	Foxfield ...	...Tidal waters of the River Duddon.
Claife ...	Near Sawrey	...Sewage tanks.
	Far Sawrey	...Two sewage tanks with overflow to stream.
	Colthouse	...Sewage tank with overflow to stream.
Colton ...	Bouth ...	...Sewage tank with overflow to stream.
	Oxenpark	...Sewage tank with overflow to land.
Coniston ...	Coniston	...Five large sewage tanks with overflow to stream.
Egton ...	Greenodd	...Tidal waters of Morecambe Bay.
	Pennybridge	...Sewage tank.
Haverthwaite ...	Haverthwaite	...Sewage tank with overflow to river.
	Backbarrow	...Sewage tank with overflow to River Leven.
Hawkshead ...	Hawkshead	...Sewage tank with outfall to stream.
	Outgate ...	...Two sewage tanks with outfall to land and stream.
	Hannakin	...Sewage tank with outfall to stream.



Holker Lower	...Cark ...	...Sewage tank with outfall to sea.
	Ravenstown	...Sewage tank and filters.
	Flookburgh	...Pumping Plant discharging sewage to enlarged works at Ravenstown with outfall to sea.
Kirkby Ireleth	...Sandside	...Tidal waters of River Duddon.
	Beckside ...	...Sewage tank with outfall to stream.
	Chapples	...Sewage tank with outfall to stream.
	Soutergate	...Sewage tank with outfall to sea.
Lowick	...Lowick Green	...Sewage tank with outfall to River Crake.
Osmotherley	...Beehive	...Tank with outfall to stream.
	Tarn Close	...Sewage tank with outfall to land.
	Three Bridges	...Sewage tank with outfall to stream.
Pennington	...Swarthmoor	...Outfall works of Ulverston Urban District Council.
	Trinkeld ...	...Outfall works of Ulverston Urban District Council.
	Loppergarth	...Sewage tank with outfall to land.
Satterthwaite	...Satterthwaite	...Private sewer to tank with outfall to stream.
Staveley	...Staveley	...Sewage tank with outfall to stream.
Torver	...Torver ...	...Sewage tank with outfall to stream.
Urswick	...Great Urswick	...Sewage tanks with outfalls to Tarn.
	Little Urswick	...Sewage tanks with outfalls to Tarn.
	Stainton ...	...Sewage tanks with outfalls to land.
	Bardsea ...	...Sewage tanks with outfalls to sea.

PARTICULARS OF AREAS WHERE SEWERAGE HAS NOT BEEN PROVIDED.

Township.	Village.
Claife .....	Wray.
Egton-with-Newland .....	Sparkbridge.
Kirkby Ireleth .....	Grizebeck.
Osmotherley .....	Broughton Beck.
Haverthwaite .....	Backbarrow (part.)
Aldingham .....	Newbiggin.
Staveley .....	Ayside.
	Barber Green.
Subberthwaite .....	Gawthwaite.



# PARTICULARS OF AREAS WHERE SEWERAGE IS NOW UNDER CONSIDERATION.

Township.	Village.
Egton-with-Newland .....	Sparkbridge.
Kirkby Ireleth .....	Grizebeck.
Haverthwaite .....	Backbarrow (part.)
Aldingham .....	Newbiggin.
Staveley .....	Ayside.

## Housing.

### STATISTICS.

1. Number of new houses erected during the year :—  
By the local authority: (a) Traditional permanent 2  
(b) Permanent prefabricated 12  
By other bodies or persons ..... 14
2. Total number of dwelling-houses which were inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ..... 1140  
Number of inspections made for the purpose ..... 1215
3. Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ..... 37
4. Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation (Rural Housing Survey) ..... 825
5. Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their officers ..... 28
6. Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied... 10  
Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied by owners after service of formal notices... 9

The Local Authorities Housing Schemes in progress at the end of the year included Urswick 8, Swarthmoor 36, Hawkshead 4, Coniston 22, Torver 2 and Allithwaite 4.

Contemplated schemes for 1950 included Broughton Beck 6, Newbiggin 4, Flookburgh 4, Backbarrow 24, Cartmel 6, Broughton-in-Furness 4, Hawkshead 10 and Lindale 4.



## Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious Diseases.

The following table shows the numbers of cases of the notifiable infectious diseases which occurred in the Rural District during the five year 1944-1948 compared with the numbers in 1949.

Disease	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949		
						No. of Cases	Removed to Hospital	No. of D'ths
Scarlet Fever	31	13	10	10	37	23	16	—
Measles	102	166	2	84	186	12	—	—
Whooping Cough	17	16	44	18	50	39	—	—
Pneumonia	14	14	16	17	15	12	1	—
Puerperal Fever and Pyrexia	5	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-spinal fever	2	—	2	1	1	—	—	—
Acute Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	1	—	1	5	5	3	1	—
Diphtheria	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric	—	1	—	2	3	—	—	—
Para-typhoid Fever	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Malaria	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	8	—	2	2	1
Polioencephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1
Totals	175	216	77	145	298	83	21	2

### SCARLET FEVER.

Twenty-three cases of Scarlet Fever were notified during 1949. The cases were all in children. Nine of the patients were males and 14 females. Sixteen cases were removed to hospital. All the cases were of a mild type.

### ALLEGED SCARLET FEVER CARRIER.

A young man who was alleged to have caused an outbreak of Scarlet Fever by infecting milk in Westmorland came to live in the Rural District towards the end of 1948. Arrangements were at once made for him to have treatment with penicillin, and a Notice under Article 15 of the Milk and Dairies Order, 1926, was served prohibiting him from milking. A large number of swabs of the nose and throat of this alleged carrier were taken throughout most of 1949 and some Beta haemolytic streptococci were isolated but none of these were of Type 25, Group A, which was the type of haemolytic streptococcus isolated from his throat at the time when he was alleged to have infected a number of persons with Scarlet Fever.

It was finally reported to the Health Committee in October that the person could not be regarded as being a carrier of



his original type of Scarletinal organism. The person concerned promised to let the Medical Officer of Health know of any change of address and of any change of occupation and to come for nose and throat swabs every three months. No further action regarding the prevention of the spread of infection was thought to be required.

#### TYPHOID FEVER.

Towards the end of December, 1948, a woman aged 57 and her two grandchildren, a girl aged 5 and a boy aged 4, of Sparkbridge were admitted to hospital suffering from Typhoid Fever.

The type of bacterium typhosum isolated from the woman and from the little girl was Type E.1. Typhoid bacilli were also isolated from the faeces of the boy but the type was not given by the Laboratory. Three years previously a woman who lived in the next house to this family suffered from Typhoid Fever and the type of typhoid organism was Type E.1., the same as that isolated from the cases mentioned. There are eleven special types of Typhoid Fever organism now known. The presumptive evidence was, therefore, that the woman and children were infected by the woman who lived in the next house. Samples of faeces were examined for Bacterium typhosum from the original case but the organism was not isolated. Specimens of blood were also found to be negative in all dilutions on agglutination tests for Typhoid, para-typhoid A and B, non-specific salmonella and brucella abortus organisms. It was not demonstrated, therefore, that the original case was a carrier.

The cottages where the cases occurred consisted of a row of four houses with three earth closets sharing a common ash-pit. The pit and closets were disinfected and pail closets were used temporarily.

A recommendation made to the Rural District Council was that a necessary precaution to prevent possible spread of Typhoid Fever later would be to re-house the families concerned in houses on the water-carriage system so that sewage might be conveyed out of harms way.

At the time of writing this report no further cases have occurred.

#### POLIOMYELITIS / POLIOENCEPHALITIS IN THE ULVERSTON COMBINED SANITARY DISTRICT.

In 1949, 9 cases of Poliomyelitis or Polioencephalitis were notified in the Ulverston Combined Sanitary District. Three of these occurred in the Ulverston Rural District, three in the Ulverston Urban District, two in the Dalton Urban District and one in the Grange Urban District.

The incidence of Poliomyelitis/Polioencephalitis since 1900 in the four districts now forming the Ulverston Combined Sanitary District is shown in the following table.



Year.	Ulverston Urban.	Ulverston Rural.	Dalton-in-Furness Urban.	Grange-over- Sands Urban.
1900-1911	—	—	—	—
1912	1	—	—	—
1913	1	8	6	—
1914	—	—	—	—
1915	1	1	—	—
1916	—	1	—	—
1917	1	1	—	—
1918	—	—	—	—
1919	—	1	3	—
1920	—	1	—	—
1921	—	1	—	—
1922	—	—	—	—
1923	—	—	—	1
1924-1939	—	—	—	—
1940	1	1	—	—
1941-1943	—	—	—	—
1944	1	—	—	—
1945-1946	—	—	—	—
1947	7	8	1	1
1948	—	—	—	—
1949	3	3	2	1

The table below shows the age, sex, date of onset, result of infection and the district in which the patient resided respecting the cases which occurred in 1949.

Case No.	Age.	Sex.	Date of Onset.	Result.	District.
1	7	F.	4/1/1949.	Recovered.	Colton.
2	12	M.	17/9/1949.	Died.	Hawkshead.
3	17	M.	26/9/1949.	Died.	Grange.
4	27	M.	28/9/1949.	Recovered.	Ulverston.
5	5	M.	28/9/1949.	Recovered.	Dalton.
6	44	M.	29/9/1949.	Recovered.	Ulverston
7	7	F.	13/10/1949.	Died.	Newland.
8	2	F.	15/10/1949.	Recovered.	Martin.
9	29	F.	23/10/1949.	Still in hospital.	Ulverston.

It will be observed from the above table that three deaths from the disease occurred during the year, giving a case mortality of 33.3%. No deaths occurred in adults. The two youths who died had been undertaking strenuous exercise at the time of onset and for a few days previously.

Although that was the position at the end of the year one death from the disease has since occurred giving a case mortality of 44.4%. The patient who died was the female aged 29 who was still in hospital at the end of the year.

Of the five cases who recovered some had residual paralysis or weakness.

No connection was traced between any of these cases. No two cases occurred in one family. No history of contact with a previous case was obtained in any instance and there was no history of recent tonsillectomy in any case.

#### TUBERCULOSIS.

The tuberculosis service in the Ulverston Combined Sanitary District is administered by the Regional Hospital Board, the County Council and the Sanitary Authority. The Hospital Board



is responsible for treatment, the County Council for care and after-care and the Sanitary Authority for prevention. A tuberculosis health visitor is provided by the Lancashire County Council. The Dispensary at Ulverston is attended by the Consultant Tuberculosis Officer for the district and a Tuberculosis Health Visitor. Extensive facilities for the investigation and treatment of tuberculosis are available at High Carley Sanatorium.

The following table shows the number of new cases of tuberculosis notified and deaths from tuberculosis in the Rural District in 1949.

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
10—	—	—	1	3	—	—	—	—
15—	1	2	—	1	—	—	—	—
20—	3	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
25—	1	2	—	1	—	1	—	—
35—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45—	2	—	2	—	1	—	—	—
55—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
65—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
75 and upwards	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	11	6	5	6	1	2	0	0
	17		11		3		0	

The table below shows the numbers of new cases and deaths from tuberculosis in Rural District Residents during the past twelve years.

Year	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
1938	8	6	3	6	2	—	—	—
1939	6	6	3	8	4	3	—	1
1940	12	3	5	2	3	3	2	—
1941	11	11	3	4	2	5	—	—
1942	14	4	2	—	2	—	—	1
1943	11	14	3	5	3	3	1	—
1944	12	13	5	4	4	6	1	—
1945	5	5	5	7	1	3	—	—
1946	9	3	2	2	2	1	1	1
1947	6	8	6	7	1	2	—	—
1948	9	10	5	3	1	—	—	2
1949	11	6	5	6	1	2	—	—

The number of new cases of tuberculosis notified was still very high.



## Shellfish Regulations.

On the 6th February, 1948, a report was made to the Health Committee concerning the question of the safety for human consumption of uncooked cockles gathered from the Flookburgh Sands. The Rural District Council considered whether an Order under the Shellfish Regulations should be made prohibiting the sale or distribution for sale for human consumption of cockles gathered from the beds in the Rural District unless treated in an approved manner. After considering representations against the proposed Order the Council resolved in March, 1948, "That in the opinion of this Council the evidence which has been submitted is insufficient to establish that shellfish taken from the layings within the district of the Council are polluted to such an extent as to constitute a danger to the public health, and that in consequence an Order under the Public Health (Shellfish) Regulations be not made."

Early in 1949 reports were made on the mussel beds within the boundaries of the Rural District and on the 19th May 1949, the Rural District Council made an Order under the Public Health (Shellfish) Regulations, 1934, prohibiting the sale or exposure for sale or distribution for human consumption of any mussels taken from within the Rural District unless such mussels had been satisfactorily treated in an approved manner.

In conclusion I thank the Members of the Health Committee and the Officers of the Rural District Council, and in particular, the Sanitary Inspectors, for courtesy and help.

The report of the Sanitary Inspector is appended.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

A. DODD,

Medical Officer of Health

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### Sanitary Inspector's Report for the Year ended 31st December, 1949.

The work of sanitary inspection in the area was greatly handicapped during most of the year owing to the absence on sick leave of Mr. Bingham who normally carries out the work in the Northern Area. For this reason much routine inspection under the Milk and Dairies Order, Shops Acts, etc. has had to be left undone and priority given to work of an urgent nature. It can be said, however, that the latter has not suffered unduly, except that there has sometimes been delay before attention could be given to the various complaints. It is to be hoped that Mr. Bingham will be fit to resume duties as soon as possible, as although the present position is reasonably satisfactory, great difficulty would be experienced if an outbreak of typhoid fever or some such disease should occur.



## SHELLFISH REGULATIONS, 1934.

Following a topographical survey of the coastal area of the district, in conjunction with bacteriological evidence on samples of mussels, an Order prohibiting the gathering of mussels for sale for human consumption (unless treated in an approved manner) was made by the Council in May, 1949. The Order applied to the whole of the coastal area of your district, but in effect the portions of coastal land involved are (a) the east side of Humphrey Head, and (b) the portion between the boundaries of the Ulverston Urban District and the County Borough of Barrow-in-Furness. These are the only areas where mussels can be obtained commercially.

Whilst it is a comparatively easy matter to make an Order under these regulations, the matter of ensuring compliance presents some difficulty, and to a great extent reliance has to be placed on external reports, from other Local Authorities and in this case, officers of the Lancashire and Western Sea Fisheries Committee. At the present time, however, it is not thought that any person is contravening the Order now in force.

## STATISTICS.

### SANITARY INSPECTIONS, INCLUDING HOUSING.

No. of premises etc. visited .....	674
No. of nuisances discovered .....	82
No. of nuisances abated .....	59
No. of Statutory Notices served .....	12
No. complied with .....	10

### RURAL HOUSING SURVEY

Total number of houses surveyed at 31st December, 1949 .....	4624
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### DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS.

No. of inspections of farms .....	215
New cowsheds provided .....	15
Cowsheds reconditioned .....	6
Dairies provided .....	5
Sterilising rooms provided .....	4
Water supplies provided .....	6
Drainage provided or improved .....	4
No. of milk samples taken for bacterio- logical examination .....	41
No. found unsatisfactory .....	4
No. found satisfactory .....	37
No. of milk samples taken for B. Tuberculosis examination .....	149
No. found positive .....	4



## INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Inquiries into cases of infectious disease ...	29
Visits re disinfection .....	26
Miscellaneous infectious disease visits .....	11

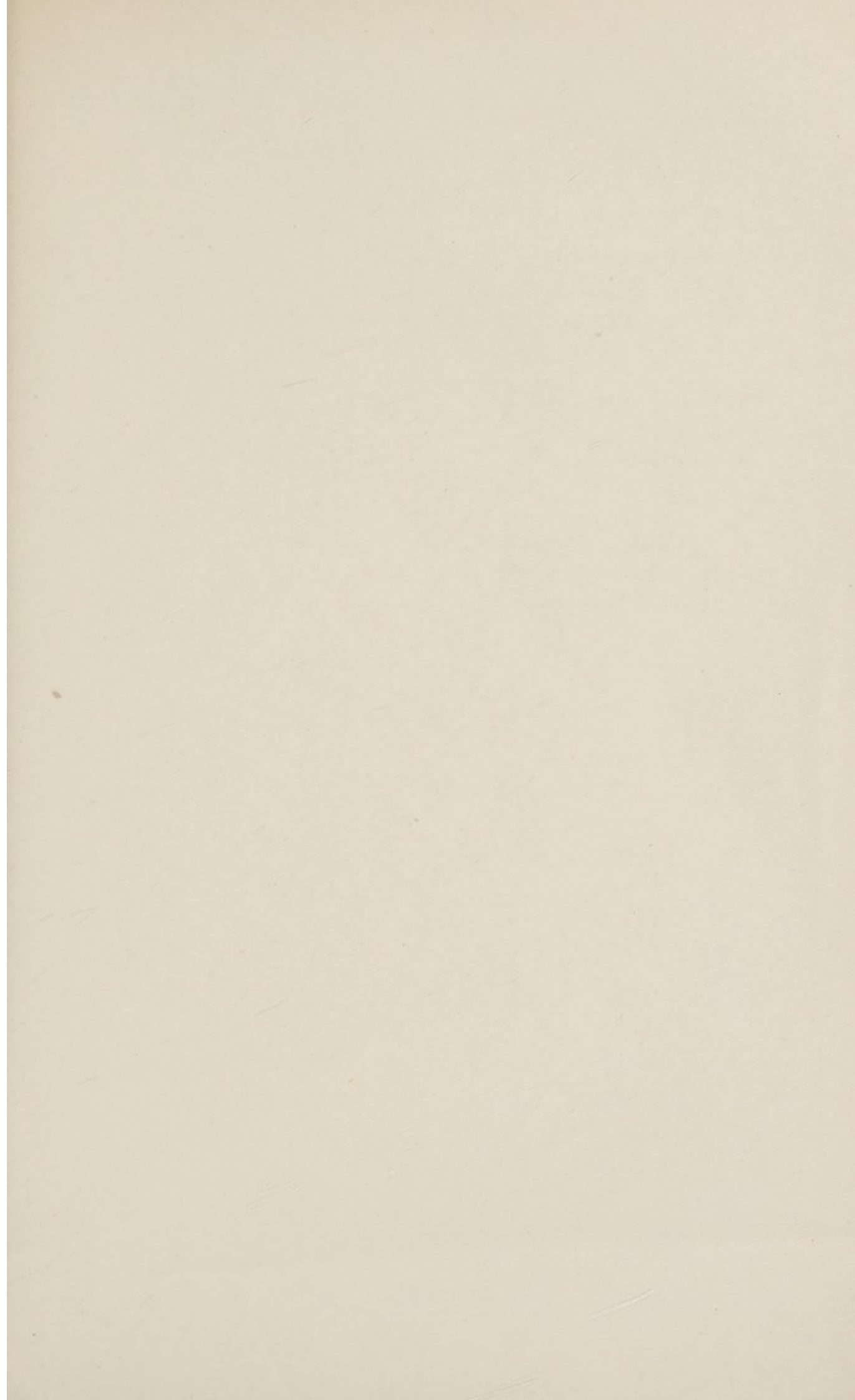
## VERMINOUS PREMISES.

No. of houses inspected.....	9
No. of houses treated for vermin .....	8
No. of visits made .....	12

## MISCELLANEOUS VISITS TO PREMISES.

Factories .....	2
Bakehouses .....	6
Shops .....	99
Ice Cream Premises .....	27
Butchers Shops .....	10
Camp Sites .....	12
Mussel Layings .....	10







# REPORT OF THE

COMMISSIONERS OF THE

LAND OFFICE

FOR THE YEAR 1880

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